

GIS Green Infrastructure Statement

Revision A

Plot 4

Cwm Woods Grove

Heolgerrig

Merthyr Tydfil

CF48 1DP

Rev Af | 02/04/2026

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Green Infrastructure Statement (Updated)

Planning Ref: P/24/0115 – Plot 4, Cwm Woods Grove

This updated Green Infrastructure Statement (GIS) has been revised to align with the Landscape Plan Rev B, Detailed Planting Plan, and Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP).

The revisions respond directly to ecological feedback and ensure full compliance with Planning Policy Wales (PPW12), delivering measurable biodiversity enhancement.

Updated Planting Strategy and Biodiversity Enhancement

The Landscape Plan Rev B has been updated to remove previously proposed artificial grass. All garden areas will now comprise ecologically beneficial planting.

Planting proposals are structured into three defined zones:

- Area A – Woodland edge planting
- Area B – Native hedgerow boundaries
- Area C – Garden and amenity planting

Area A provides structural planting that integrates the development with the surrounding landscape and supports habitat creation.

Area B consists of native species hedgerows that function as wildlife corridors, improving ecological connectivity across the site. Hedgehog access points (130mm x 130mm) are provided at 10 metre intervals along all boundaries.

Area C provides functional residential gardens while delivering biodiversity enhancement. Lawn areas will be sown with a flower-rich lawn mix to support pollinators while maintaining usability. Planting borders will include native shrubs and nectar-rich species to provide seasonal food sources.

This approach ensures the replacement of artificial grass with ecologically functional planting and delivers a clear biodiversity gain.

Ecological Connectivity

The site has been designed to maintain and enhance ecological connectivity through:

- Native hedgerow corridors
- Hedgehog access points throughout boundary treatments
- Integration of garden planting into wider habitat structure
- Retention of dark corridors in line with the lighting strategy

These measures ensure movement of species across and through the site.

Existing Green Infrastructure

The baseline arboriculture and landscape context for the site was informed by the approved Tree Protection Plan (Plot 4, Colliers Row, 08/2020), which identified existing tree groups, root protection areas and structural vegetation across the site .

Since the preparation of this plan, a number of trees have been removed. In response, the current proposals incorporate a comprehensive landscape strategy to reinstate and enhance ecological value through appropriate replacement planting, as detailed within the Landscape Plan (Drawing CR4-02 Rev B). This approach ensures that the site delivers an overall improvement in biodiversity, structure and habitat provision in accordance with Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12).

The proposals have also been developed in coordination with the approved sustainable drainage strategy under SAB application Ref: SAB/21/0011, ensuring alignment between landscape design, surface water management and green infrastructure delivery.

“Replacement planting has been designed to provide increased species diversity, improved habitat connectivity and long-term resilience when compared to the previous baseline condition.”

Green Infrastructure Assessment (DECCA Framework)

The scheme has been designed in accordance with the DECCA framework set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW12), ensuring a robust and measurable approach to green infrastructure:

- **Diversity:** A range of habitats are introduced including woodland edge planting (Area A), native hedgerows (Area B), and species-rich garden planting (Area C), supporting a variety of flora and fauna.
- **Extent:** The removal of artificial grass and replacement with planting across all garden areas significantly increases the overall extent of green infrastructure on site.

- **Condition:** All planting will be established and maintained in accordance with the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP), ensuring habitats are healthy, functional, and sustainable over the long term.
- **Connectivity:** Native hedgerows, hedgehog access points, and dark corridors provide continuous wildlife movement routes through the site and into the wider landscape.
- **Adaptability:** The planting strategy incorporates resilient, native, and climate-tolerant species, ensuring the green infrastructure can adapt to environmental change and continue to provide ecological benefits over time.

This approach ensures the development delivers a coherent, multifunctional green infrastructure network in full accordance with PPW12.

Additional Ecological Features

In addition to planting and connectivity measures, the scheme incorporates a range of ecological enhancements to support a variety of species:

- Integrated bat boxes and bird boxes are installed on the dwelling in accordance with the submitted elevations
- Hedgehog access points are provided throughout all boundary treatments
- Habitat features including log piles and hibernacula will be incorporated within planting areas to provide shelter and overwintering opportunities for amphibians, invertebrates, and small mammals

These features complement the planting strategy and ensure a diverse and functional habitat network across the site.

These features are shown on the submitted Landscape Plan CR4/02 and Elevation drawings CR4/03 and secured through the LEMP.

Compliance with Policy

The updated proposals:

- Follow the step-wise approach set out in Planning Policy Wales (PPW12)
- Provide biodiversity enhancement
- Align with the LEMP and long-term management strategy
- Ensure the development contributes positively to the ecological network

The scheme therefore delivers a net biodiversity benefit in accordance with Planning Policy Wales (PPW12).